

THE EPILOGUE TO ISSUE 100

SPAWN

SPAWN.COM



101

DIGITAL
EDITION

TODD McFARLANE AND IMAGE COMICS PRESENT

AFTERMATH

DEDICATED TO
GRAHAM MORRIS

STORY
TODD McFARLANE

PENCILS
ANGEL MEDINA

INKS
DANNY MIKI
AND CRIME LAB

LETTERING
TOM ORZECOWSKI

COLOR
BRIAN HABERLIN
DAN KEMP
HABERLIN STUDIOS

COVER
GEORGE PEREZ

PRESIDENT OF
ENTERTAINMENT
TERRY FITZGERALD

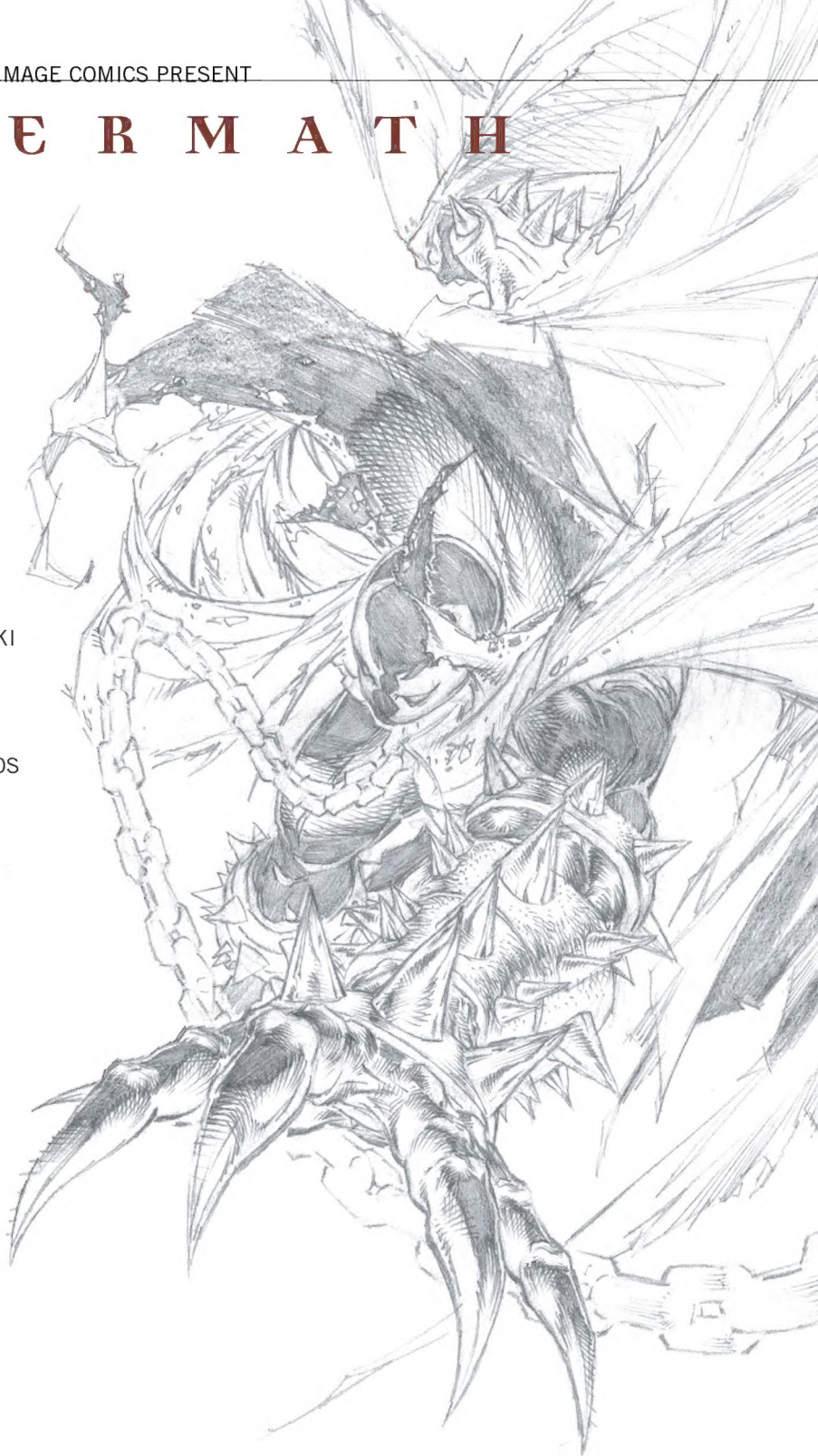
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SPAWN CREATED BY
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SPAWN 100 SUMMARY

While Wanda lies close to death, Spawn returns to the eighth level of Hell for a final showdown with a weakened Malebolgia. At the height of the conflict, Angela arrives to join in the battle. After mortally wounding Malebolgia and thinking him dead, Spawn and Angela prepare to escape; however, with his last breath, Malebolgia extracts Angela's lance and impales her with it. In a rage, Spawn decapitates Malebolgia with Angela's sword. Carrying Angela's lifeless body, Spawn delivers her to a host of angels who offer him forgiveness and redemption. He refuses this angelic pardon, but the angel who offers it can yet do one favor for Spawn: She appears in Wanda's hospital room and breathes new life into Wanda. Meanwhile, Spawn finally comes to terms with his place in the world.



TODD McFARLANE
PRODUCTIONS

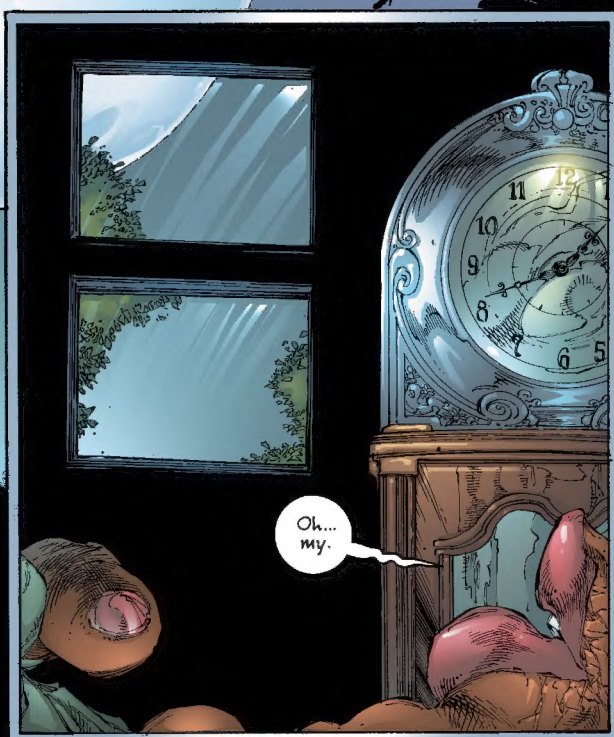


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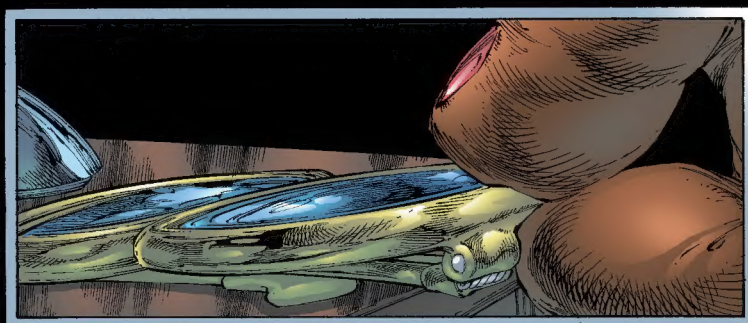
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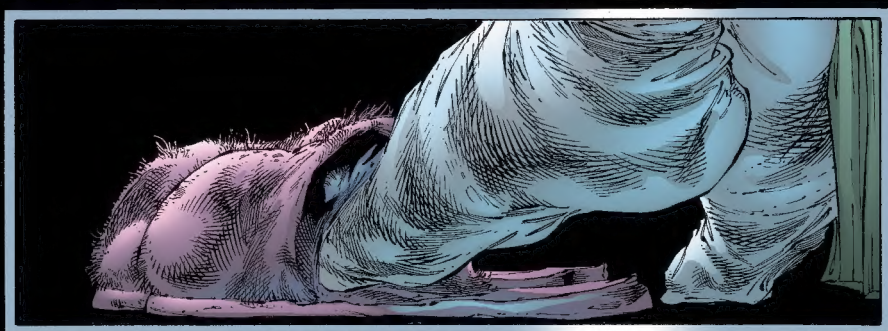
SUNDAY.



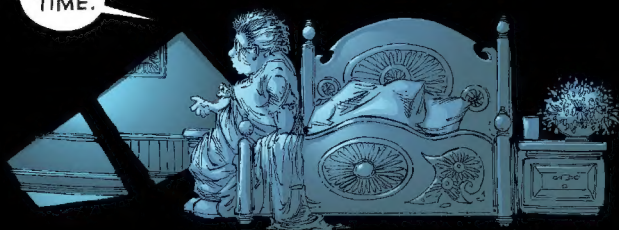
Oh...
my.

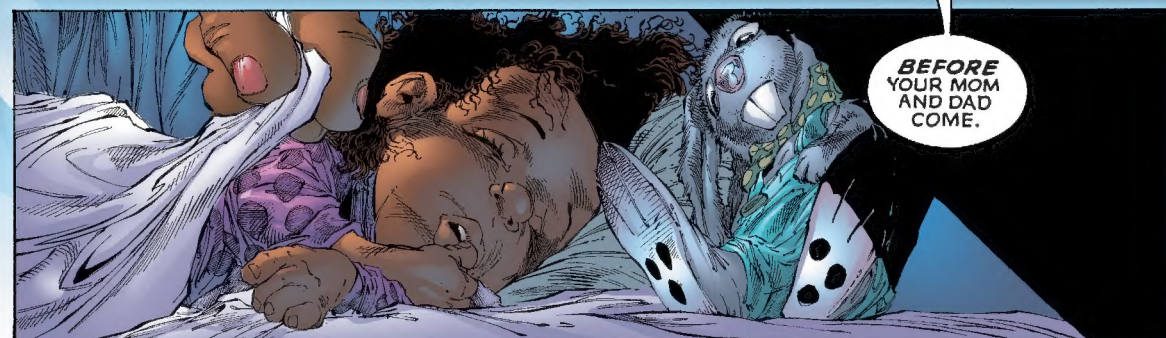
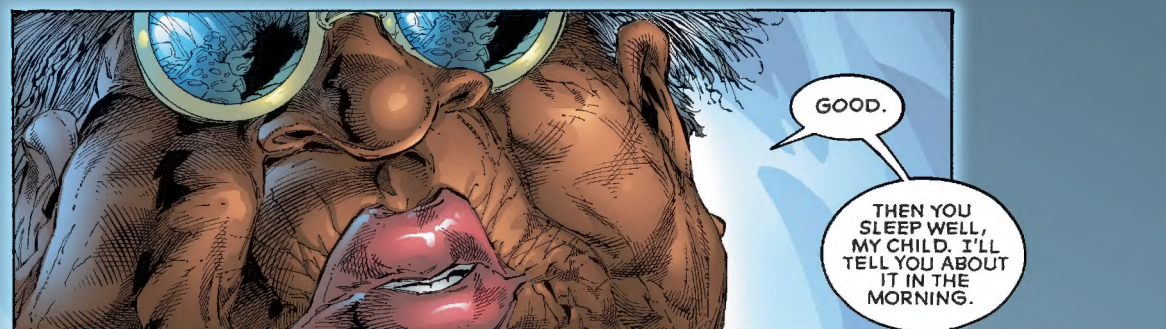
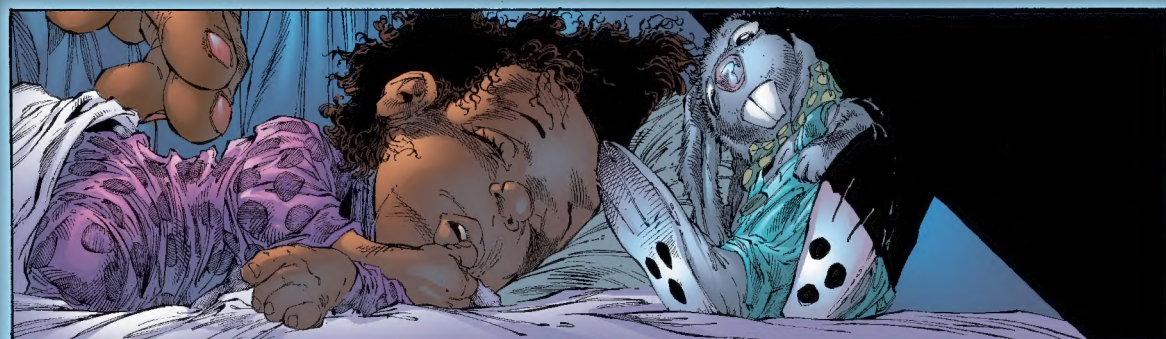


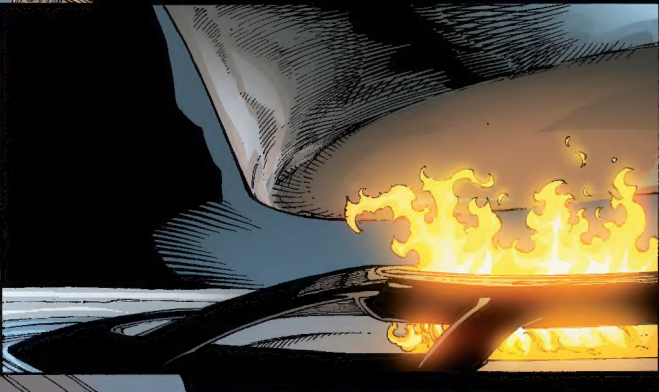
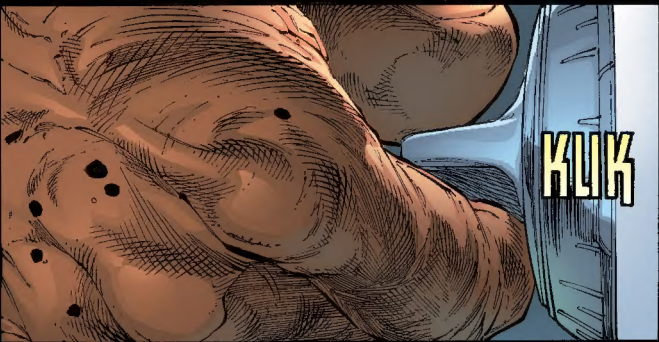
AN OLD WOMAN'S
PEACEFUL SLUMBER
IS ABRUPTLY
ENDED.



IT'S
TIME.







NOW
WHERE DID
I PUT THAT
FLAVORED
TEA?



OK, YES.
HERE
IT IS.





I DREAMT
OF YOU
TONIGHT.

BUT
SUDDENLY
YOU VANISHED.
AND I CAN'T
REMEMBER
WHERE YOU
WENT.

OR WHY YOU
WERE EVEN THERE
IN THE FIRST PLACE.
BUT IT DOESN'T
MATTER NOW. I
KNEW YOU'D
BE COMING
TONIGHT.

I'M
SORRY,
GRANNY. I
DIDN'T MEAN
TO WAKE
YOU.

YOU
DIDN'T.
GOD
DID.

BESIDES, I KNOW YOU'RE HERE FOR A REASON. HEAVEN WOULDN'T HAVE SENT YOU DOWN JUST TO CHECK IN ON AN OLD BLIND LADY.

HAVE YOU SEEN CYAN, YET?



YES.

SHE'S BEEN VERY CONCERNED ABOUT YOU.

I KNOW. IS SHE ALL RIGHT?

SURPRISINGLY, YES. GIVEN ALL SHE'S BEEN THROUGH LATELY.

HERE'S YOUR DRINK.

THANK YOU.



I GUESS THAT'S PART OF WHY I'M HERE.



GO ON.

SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED. SOMETHING THAT MEANS I HAVE TO GO AWAY.

MAYBE FOREVER.





IS THAT WHAT YOU CAME TO TELL ME?

I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

NOW YOU COME SIT DOWN HERE. I WANT TO KNOW WHY YOU'RE REALLY HERE.



I DON'T KNOW.



THEN I'LL TELL YOU.

GIVE ME YOUR HAND.

WHAT?

I SAID, GIVE ME YOUR HAND.



I PRAYED FOR YOU TONIGHT, HOPING THAT GOD WOULD SHARE YOU WITH US AGAIN.

YOU'VE BEEN GONE FROM OUR LIVES, MY LIFE, FOR TOO LONG.

I'VE MISSED YOU, AL.





I'M
SORRY.

FOR WHAT?

I CAN
FEEL IN YOUR
HAND THAT YOU
ARE STILL ROUGH.
HARDENED. WHAT ARE
YOU PROTECTING
YOURSELF
FROM?

EVERYTHING.

YOU
DON'T
MEAN...

**YES.
I DO!**

I THOUGHT
LIFE WAS
SUPPOSED TO BE
SIMPLE. THAT'S ALL
I'VE EVER WANTED.
A NICE, SIMPLE
LIFE.

YOU
KNOW,
A WIFE,
COUPLE KIDS.
WHITE PICKET
FENCE AROUND
THE HOUSE. AND
LAUGHTER.

DO YOU
KNOW HOW LONG
IT'S BEEN SINCE I'VE
LAUGHED OUT LOUD...?
I MEAN A GOOD,
LONG BELLY
LAUGH.



I CAN'T EVEN
REMEMBER
WHAT THAT
FEELS LIKE.

BUT, I GUESS
IT DOESN'T
MATTER ANYMORE.
I'M DEAD, RIGHT?

DO YOU KNOW I HAVEN'T
EVEN TRIED TO LOOK UP
MY OWN FAMILY SINCE I
RETURNED? MY PARENTS.
BROTHER. I DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING
TO THEM. AND WHAT'S
EVEN SCARIER... THERE
IS A PART OF ME THAT
DOESN'T GIVE A DAMN.
WHY?

WHY WOULD I THINK LIKE THAT?

IS THAT REALLY ME, OR JUST WHAT
THEY WANT ME TO BE? I NEVER
DREAMED THAT'S WHAT I WAS
ASKING FOR, IN THAT BLINDING
MOMENT WHEN EVERYTHING
TURNED BLACK. I ONLY
WANTED WANDA.

THAT'S ALL I ASKED FOR.
ALL I NEEDED.

BUT THEY DIDN'T GIVE
ME TIME TO THINK.
OR REACT. THEY
JUST WANTED
ME TO SAY
YES.

JUST SAY
YES.

I'VE REPLAYED THAT MOMENT
A MILLION TIMES. GOD, IT
ALMOST DRIVES ME CRAZY.
OVER AND OVER. YES. YES!
I SAID YES!

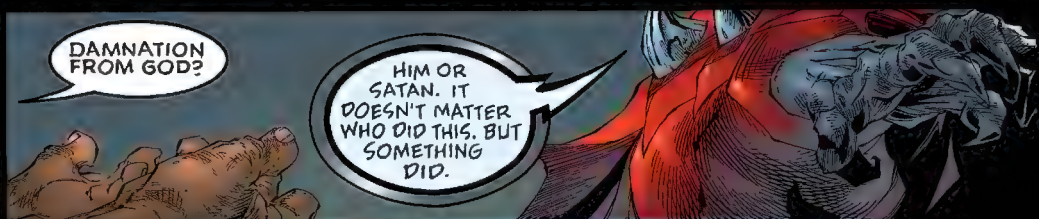
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THE
QUESTION WAS. IT JUST-- IT
JUST HAPPENED SO FAST.
AND I WAS SO ANGRY
AT THE TIME.

I HATED JASON WYNN. HATED
MY JOB. HATED WHAT I
WAS BECOMING. EVERY-
THING. AND THEY USED
THAT. I KNOW NOW THAT
IT WAS MY HATE THAT
GAVE THEM THEIR
CHANGE. AND I WAS
TOO BLINDED TO SEE
THAT. DO YOU UNDER-
STAND, GRANNY?
THEY WANTED ME
TO BELIEVE IN LOVE.
IN WANDA. THEY
WANTED ME TO
BE CONFUSED.

LOVE. HATE.
HOW COULD THEY
BOTH EXIST AT
THE EXACT SAME
TIME? AND THEN
I SAID YES. I
THOUGHT IT WAS
IN ANSWER TO
SEEING MY WIFE.
IT WAS NEVER
ABOUT THAT.
WANDA WAS
ONLY A TRICK.
AN ILLUSION
TO CLING TO.

WHAT I SAID
YES TO WAS
DAMNATION.





DAMNATION FROM GOD?

HIM OR SATAN. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO DID THIS. BUT SOMETHING DID.

DID WHAT? YOU'RE STARTING TO SCARE ME, NOW.

IMAGINE HOW I FEEL, THEN. LOOK, GRANNY, THERE'S NO EXPLANATION FOR WHAT I'VE BECOME. SO HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND?

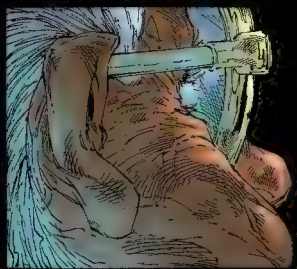
YOU'RE RIGHT.

THEN LET ME EXPLAIN A FEW THINGS TO YOU. I DON'T KNOW WHY GOD HAS CHOSEN YOU TO CARRY WHAT-EVER BURDEN YOU MUST NOW BEAR.



BUT I'D HOPED AND PRAYED THAT YOU'D HAVE COME TO SOME RESOLUTION SINCE WE LAST TALKED. IT APPEARS THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN. AND THOUGH I'M NOT SILLY ENOUGH TO THINK I CAN HELP YOU, I DO KNOW WHAT PART OF YOUR PURPOSE IS.

TO GUIDE US.

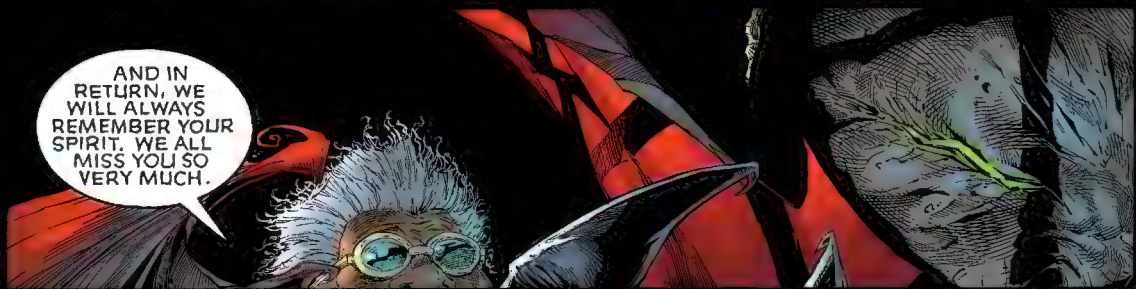


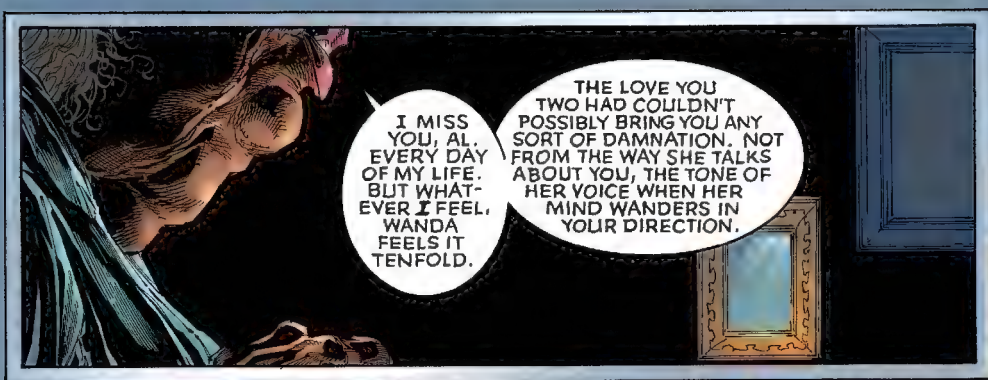
TO WATCH OVER US.

TO REMIND US OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE STRONG.



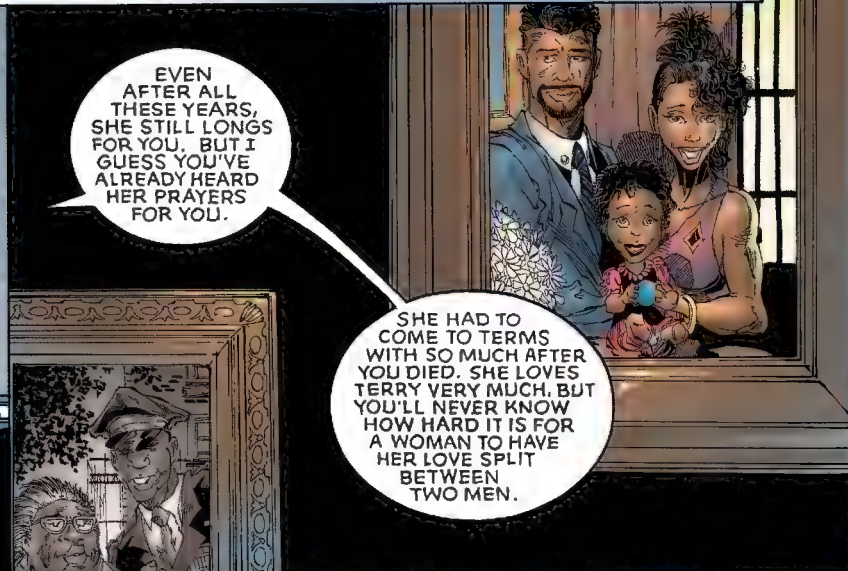
AND IN RETURN, WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOUR SPIRIT. WE ALL MISS YOU SO VERY MUCH.





I MISS YOU, AL. EVERY DAY OF MY LIFE. BUT WHATEVER I FEEL, WANDA FEELS IT TENFOLD.

THE LOVE YOU TWO HAD COULDN'T POSSIBLY BRING YOU ANY SORT OF DAMNATION. NOT FROM THE WAY SHE TALKS ABOUT YOU, THE TONE OF HER VOICE WHEN HER MIND WANDERS IN YOUR DIRECTION.



EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, SHE STILL LONGS FOR YOU. BUT I GUESS YOU'VE ALREADY HEARD HER PRAYERS FOR YOU.

SHE HAD TO COME TO TERMS WITH SO MUCH AFTER YOU DIED. SHE LOVES TERRY VERY MUCH, BUT YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW HARD IT IS FOR A WOMAN TO HAVE HER LOVE SPLIT BETWEEN TWO MEN.



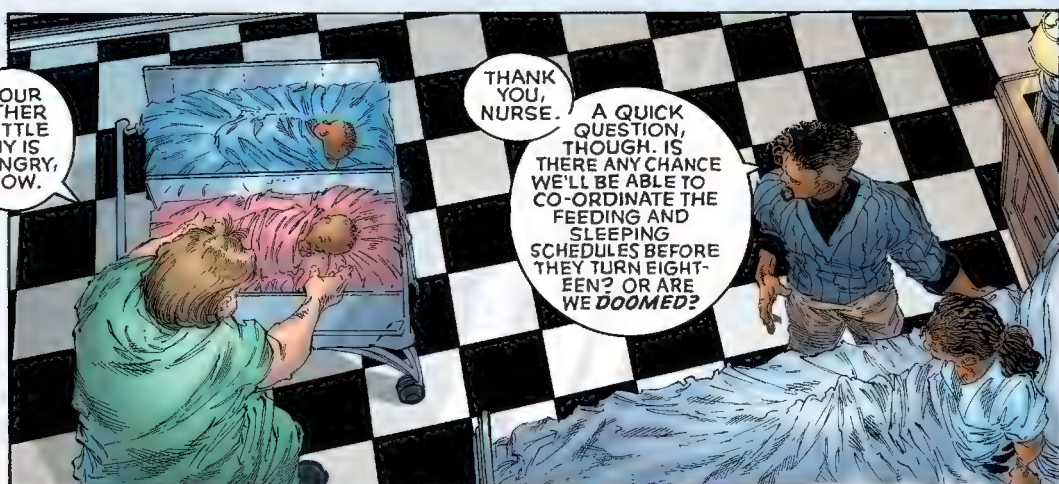
"AND NOW WITH THE NEW BABIES, SHE IS... WHAT'S THE MATTER? DON'T TELL ME YOU DIDN'T KNOW?"

"I DIDN'T."

"YES. TWINS, EVEN. CAN YOU PICTURE THAT? A LITTLE BOY AND A LITTLE GIRL."

FEEDING TIME.





YOUR OTHER LITTLE GUY IS HUNGRY, NOW.

THANK YOU, NURSE.

A QUICK QUESTION, THOUGH. IS THERE ANY CHANCE WE'LL BE ABLE TO CO-ORDINATE THE FEEDING AND SLEEPING SCHEDULES BEFORE THEY TURN EIGHTEEN? OR ARE WE DOOMED?

YOU'RE DOOMED.

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.



MY HUSBAND IS KIDDING, ELAINE. PLEASE IGNORE HIM. YOU SHOULD SEE HIM AND POOPY DIAPERS. IT'S NOT A PRETTY SIGHT.

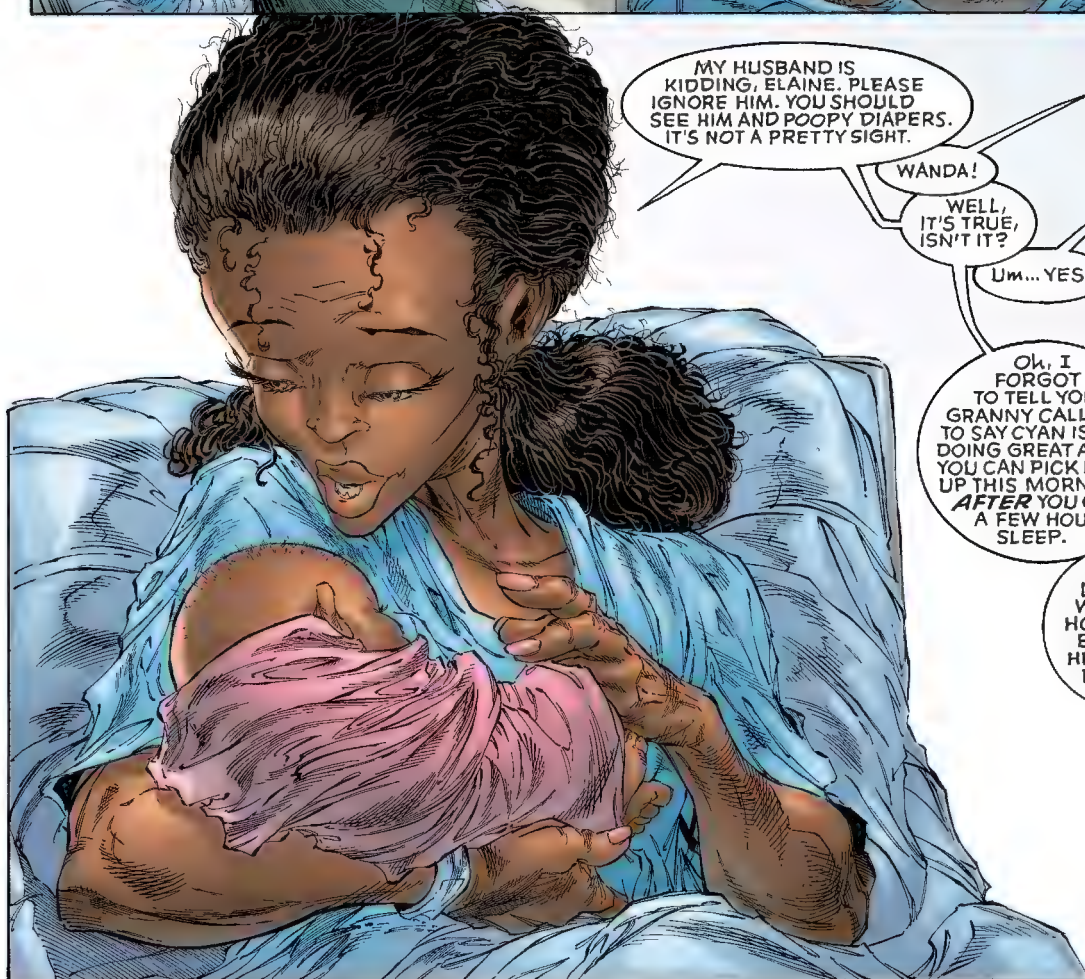
WANDA!

WELL, IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?

Um... YES.

Oh, I FORGOT TO TELL YOU. GRANNY CALLED TO SAY CYAN IS DOING GREAT AND YOU CAN PICK HER UP THIS MORNING... **AFTER YOU GRAB A FEW HOURS' SLEEP.**

HERE, DID YOU WANT TO HOLD JAKE BEFORE HE STARTS EATING?



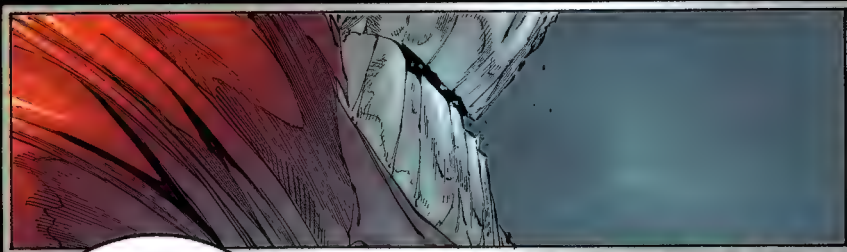


MIRACLE BABIES. THAT'S WHAT THE DOCTORS CALLED THEM.



BECAUSE MEDICALLY SOMETHING WASN'T RIGHT-- SOMETHING STRANGE, ALTHOUGH THEY NEVER SAID WHAT.

ALL I KNOW IS THAT THEY SAID LITTLE JAKE AND KATE WERE MIRACLES. ISN'T THAT WONDERFUL?

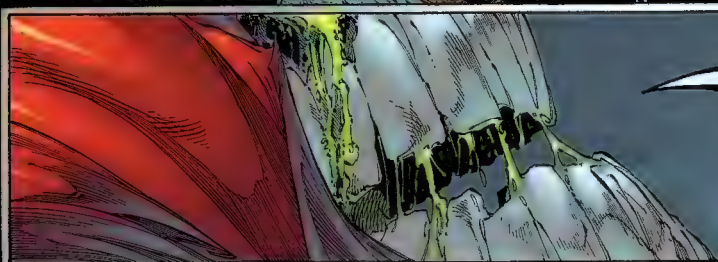


YOU'RE NOT TELLING ME SOMETHING. WHAT IS IT? WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO HIDE?


AL?



PLEASE, YOU CAME HERE FOR A REASON. WHAT IS IT? WHAT ARE YOU SO AFRAID TO SAY?



IT'S A **LIE!!** ALL OF IT! INCLUDING YOUR SO-CALLED GOD.



YOU WANT TO
KNOW WHAT I'M
HIDING? THAT
WE'RE NOTHING
BUT FOOLS.
ALL OF US!


HEAVEN. HELL. THE BIBLE.
NONE OF THOSE FAIRY TALES
HAS IT RIGHT. AND THE
RELIGIONS?! THEY'VE GOT THE
WHOLE FRIGGIN' WORLD SUCKERED
INTO SOME DELUSION OR OTHER.

MORE THAN THAT, THERE ISN'T
A GOOD SIDE. THEY'RE BOTH
THE SAME. YOU SEE, GRANNY,
THEY JUST KILLED MY
FRIEND, AN ANGEL. A
REAL LIVE ANGEL.
GUTTED HER LIKE A PIG.
HELL DID THE DEED,
BUT HEAVEN AIDED
AND ABETTED THE
SLAUGHTER.
WHY? WHY
WOULD GOD LET
ONE OF HIS
GILDED FLOCK
DIE? THAT'S
AN EASY ONE.

WAR.

PLAIN AND SIMPLE.

ARMAGEDDON. THE
APOCALYPSE. CALL IT WHAT-
EVER YOU WANT. THE ONLY
WAY TO WIN IS TO HAVE MORE
SOULS THAN THE OTHER SIDE.
NO MATTER WHAT. AT ANY COST.
SO, IF YOU THINK YOUR GOOD DEEDS
COUNT IN THE END, THEN YOU'VE
BEEN SUCKERED AGAIN. EVERY
SOUL GOES IN ONE POOL, YOU SEE,
AND THEY ALTERNATE PICKS.
FIFTY-FIFTY, RIGHT DOWN THE
MIDDLE, LIKE SOME TWISTED,
INSANE SPORTS DRAFT.
FIRST HEAVEN, THEN HELL.
THEN HEAVEN. THEN HELL.
BACK AND FORTH.
OBVIOUSLY, NEITHER
SIDE GETS A
NUMBERS
ADVANTAGE
THAT WAY.



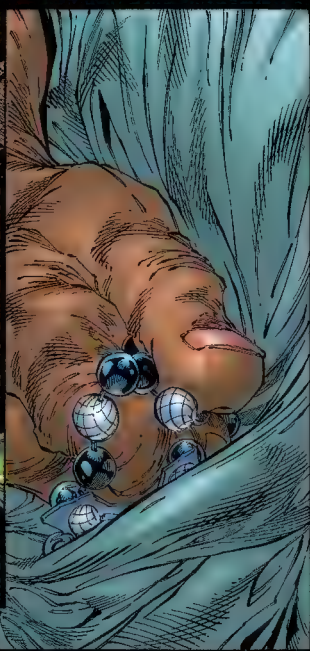
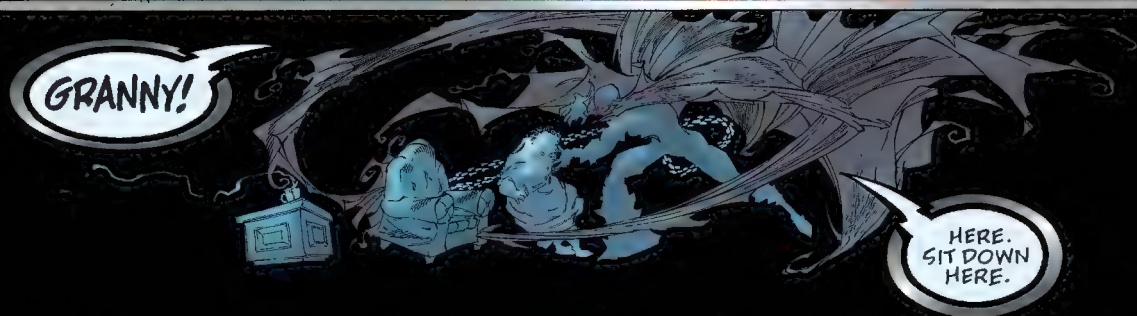
YOU KNOW WHAT THE
THING IS THAT TIPS THE
SCALES? IT'S QUALITY.
WHO'S BETTER AT WAR,
WHOSE SOUL CAN FIGHT
WITH MORE SAVAGERY.

YOUR HEAVEN NEEDS THE RUTHLESS AS MUCH
AS HELL DOES. GOD'S NOT STUPID ENOUGH
TO BELIEVE HE CAN WIN A WAR WITH HELL ON
THE BACKS OF THE SOULS OF SALVATION ARMY
VOLUNTEERS, KINDLY BLUE-HAIRED BINGO
LADIES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS. NO.

GOD NEEDS THE SPIRITS OF
GENGHIS KHAN, ATTILA THE HUN
AND JACK THE RIPPER. THEIR
CRUELTY WOULD SERVE HELL SO
WELL THAT HE'D DO ALL HE
COULD TO KEEP THEM
OFF THAT TEAM.

SATAN CHOSE ME
BUT I WASN'T LIKE
HIS OTHER PAWNS.
I KILLED MY DEMON
MASTER, THEN
LAUGHED AT
HEAVEN WHEN
THEY INVITED
ME TO JUMP TO
THEIR SIDE.

THEY'RE THE
SAME. AT
LEAST THEIR
AGENDAS ARE
DOMINATE.
WIN. AT
ANY COST.



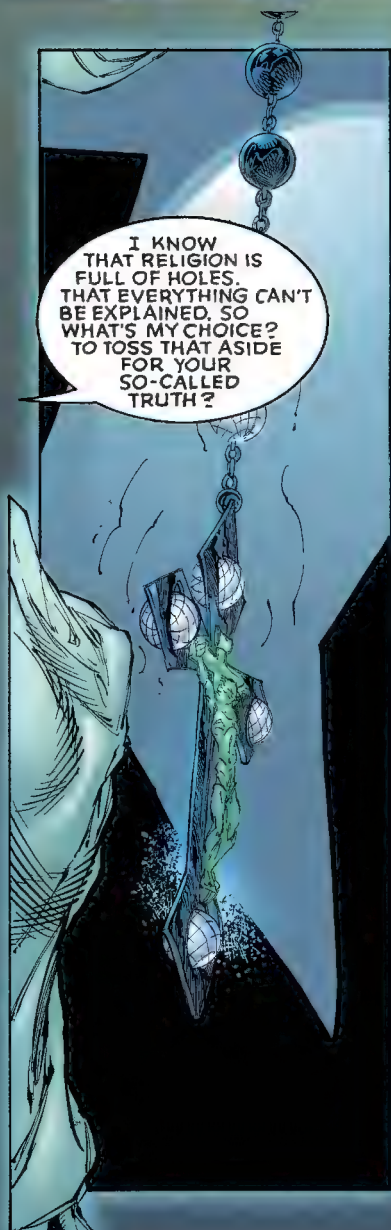


**HOW
DARE
YOU!!**

I'M...
I'M...

HOW
DARE
YOU.

YOU CAME
TO TELL ME THAT
FAITH DOESN'T
MATTER. THAT I'M A
FOOL FOR BELIEVING
IN SOMETHING GOOD.
FOR ALLOWING MY-
SELF THE CONCEPT
OF HOPE. WELL, LET
ME **TELL** YOU
SOMETHING.



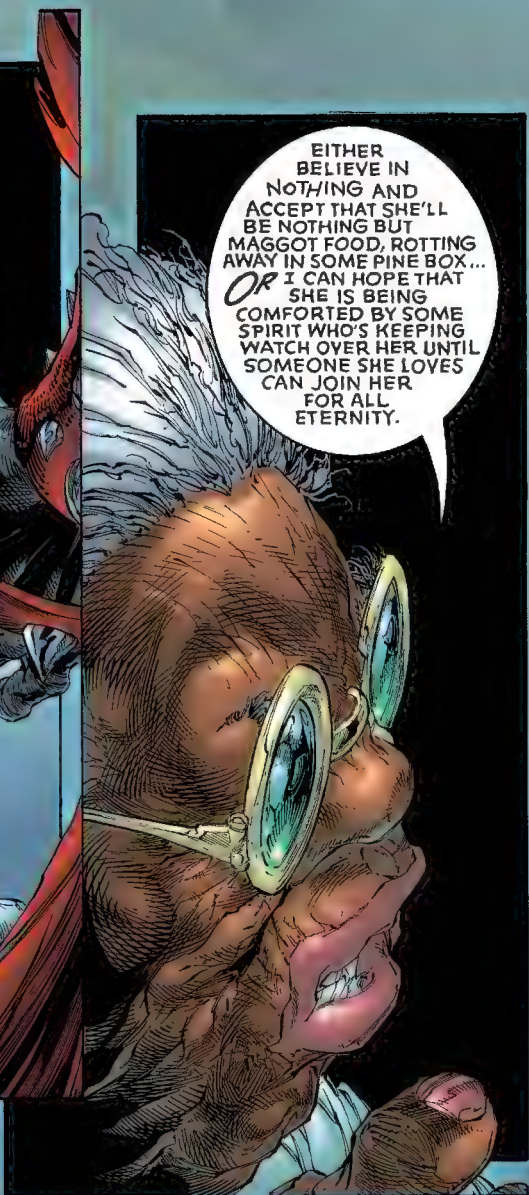
I KNOW
THAT RELIGION IS
FULL OF HOLES.
THAT EVERYTHING CAN'T
BE EXPLAINED. SO
WHAT'S MY CHOICE?
TO TOSS THAT ASIDE
FOR YOUR
SO-CALLED
TRUTH?

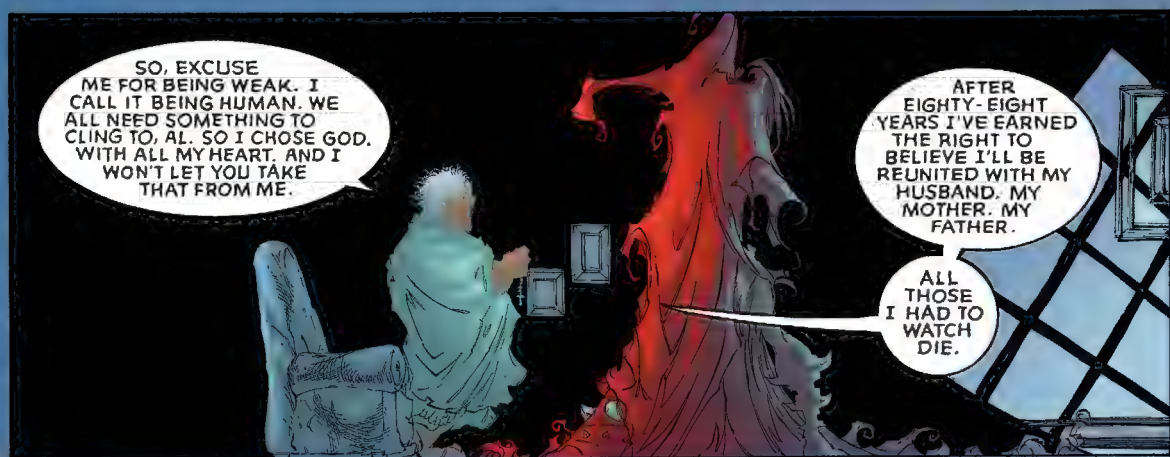
No!

IF CYAN
WAS TO BE
HIT BY A CAR
TOMORROW,
GOD FORBID,
AND DIED...
I'D HAVE TWO
CHOICES.



EITHER
BELIEVE IN
NOTHING AND
ACCEPT THAT SHE'LL
BE NOTHING BUT
MAGGOT FOOD, ROTTING
AWAY IN SOME PINE BOX...
OR I CAN HOPE THAT
SHE IS BEING
COMFORTED BY SOME
SPIRIT WHO'S KEEPING
WATCH OVER HER UNTIL
SOMEONE SHE LOVES
CAN JOIN HER
FOR ALL
ETERNITY.





SO, EXCUSE ME FOR BEING WEAK. I CALL IT BEING HUMAN. WE ALL NEED SOMETHING TO CLING TO, AL. SO I CHOSE GOD. WITH ALL MY HEART. AND I WON'T LET YOU TAKE THAT FROM ME.

AFTER EIGHTY- EIGHT YEARS I'VE EARNED THE RIGHT TO BELIEVE I'LL BE REUNITED WITH MY HUSBAND. MY MOTHER. MY FATHER.

ALL THOSE I HAD TO WATCH DIE.



EVEN YOU, AL. I PRAY FOR YOU EVERY NIGHT.

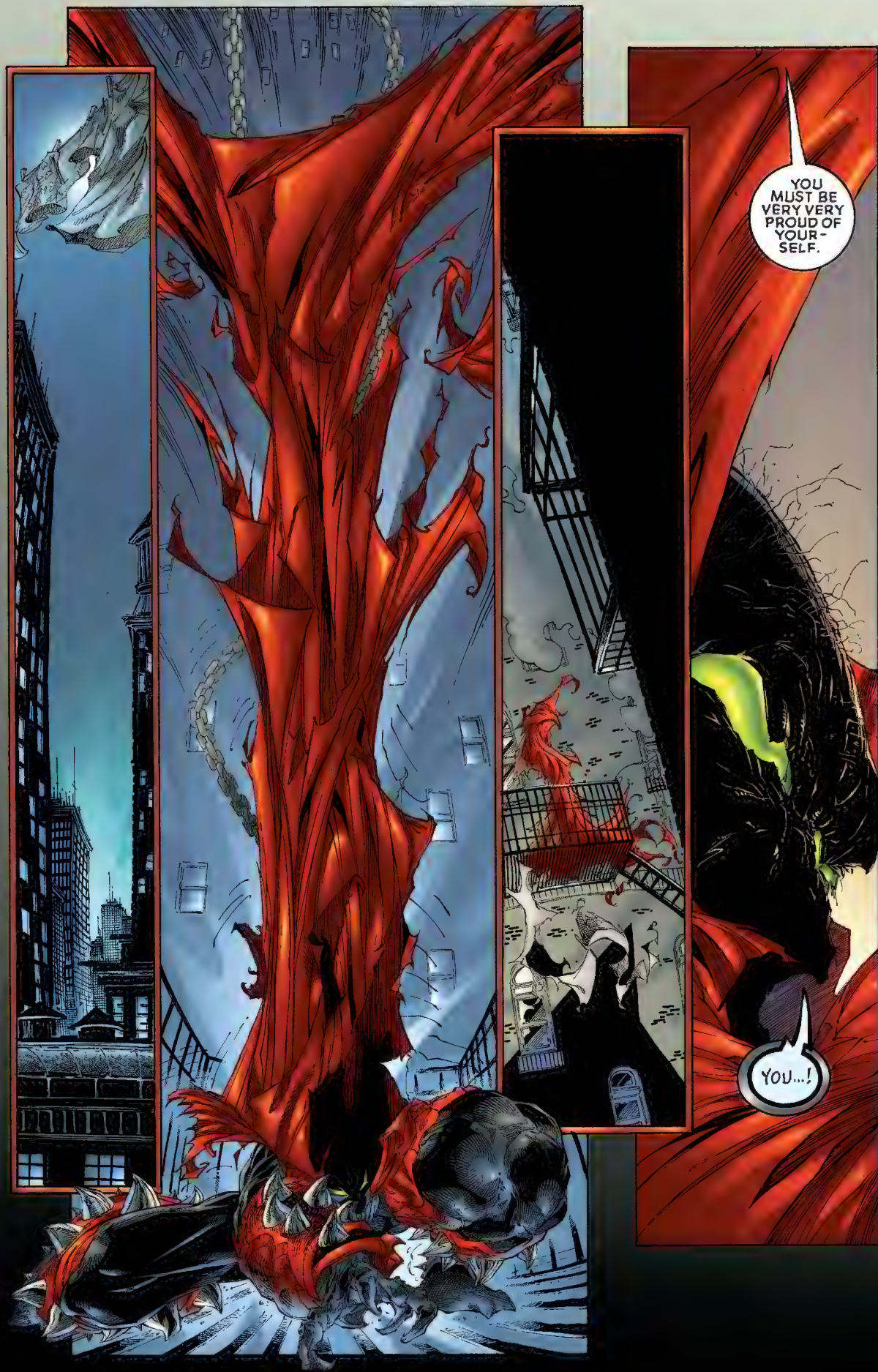
HOW DARE YOU SAY IT'S ALL BEEN IN VAIN.

I'M SO SORRY, GRANNY. I KNOW WHAT I'VE SEEN.

I ALSO KNOW THAT THE ONLY WAY TO PROTECT YOU ALL FROM IT IS TO FINALLY SAY...

GOODBYE.

GOD HAVE MERCY ON YOU.



YOU
MUST BE
VERY VERY
PROUD OF
YOUR-
SELF.

YOU...!



BREAKING
THE HEART OF
A FRAGILE OLD
WOMAN. QUITE
IMPRESSIVE.

THAT'S
WHAT YOU DO?
NOW THAT YOU'VE
SLAIN YOUR MASTER,
TURN YOUR BACK ON
EVERYONE? YOU MEAN
TO PROTECT THEM BY
SHATTERING THEIR
DREAMS THEN
LEAVING THEM TO
FEND FOR THEM-
SELVES?!

YOU
THINK YOUR
VICTORY IN
HELL WOULD
BE THAT
EASY?!

YOU NAIVE
SONOVABITCH!
IT'S NOT THAT
SIMPLE!

MY
WAR'S
OVER, COG.
HEAVEN AND
HELL WILL
HAVE TO LEARN
TO LIVE
WITHOUT
ME!

SIMPLE?!

I JUST
GUTTED THE
LAST PERSON I
COULD TALK TO.
THE ONLY ONE
I COULD TRUST.
WHY? NOT
BECAUSE THINGS
ARE SIMPLE!!
BECAUSE
THEY GOT TOO
COMPLI-
CATED!



BUT
THINGS ARE
GOING TO
CHANGE.

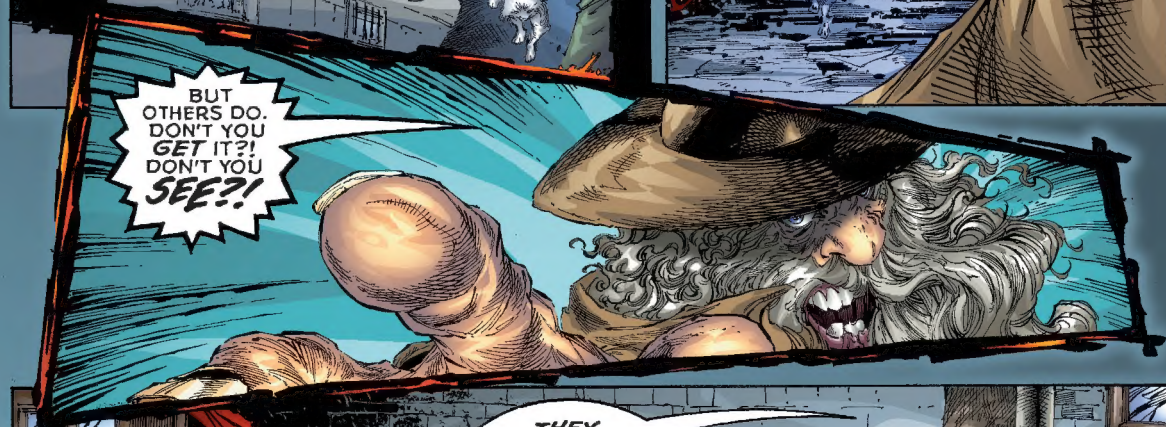
WELL, LET
ME BURST
YOUR BUBBLE.
YOU CAN TRY
AND WALK AWAY
FROM ALL THIS.
THAT WILL
AVAIL YOU
NAUGHT.

YOU
KILLED
THEIR
DARK LORD!
ALL HELL
SAW IT.



NOW THERE
IS A VACUUM
THAT MUST BE
FILLED. THEIR
SEAT OF **POWER**
IS EMPTY, AND
IT **MUST** BE
OCCUPIED.

I DON'T
GIVE A
DAMN.



BUT
OTHERS DO.
DON'T YOU
GET IT?!
DON'T YOU
SEE?!



THEY
WON'T LEAVE
YOUR LOVED ONES
ALONE, EVEN IF
YOU DO. AND THEY
SURE AS HELL WON'T
LET YOU WALK
AWAY FROM
THIS.

YOUR ACTIONS
HAVE MADE YOU
THEIR NEW LEADER.

SLAYING
MALEBOLGIA
MAKES *YOU*
THEIR MASTER.

AND THEY WILL
DO EVERYTHING
IN THEIR POWER
TO MAKE SURE
YOU ASSUME
THAT ROLE.



THE THRONE IS
YOURS. SO,
ACCEPT IT OR
NOT...

'THE KING
IS DEAD.
LONG LIVE
THE KING!'





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE